OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF (NQS)

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Incident Management
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Operations Section Chief (OSC) manages all operations and progress related to the incident
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Incident Managemet Team). 2. Requestor specifies any additional qualifications necessary based on incident complexity and needs 3. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Coordinates operations at the state level or across jurisdictions	Same as Type 3, PLUS: Develops and implements a transition plan based on escalating incident complexity	The OSC: 1. Manages all aspects of the Operations Section 2. Provides the tactical assignments documented in the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and directs its execution 3. Makes expedient changes to current operations based on the complexity or magnitude of the incident and reports those changes to the Incident Commander (IC) 4. Manages all operations and progress related to the incident 5. Ensures the safety and welfare of Operations Section personnel 6. Coordinates operations at the local level 7. Establishes or transitions into the Operations Section 8. Supervises and configures section with branches, divisions, groups, and units to support operations	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
TRAINING	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Completion of the following: 1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100 2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 3. ICS-300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents 4. ICS-400: Advanced Incident Command System for Command and General Staff – Complex Incidents 5. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction 6. IS-706: National Incident Management System Intrastate Mutual Aid – An Introduction 7. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction 8. IS-2900: National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Overview 9. E/L 0958: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Operations Section Chief Course 10. E/G/L 0191: Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface 11. USFA 0305 Type III All-Hazards Incident Management Team Course, or equivalent	1. Identified equivalent trainings should meet or exceed course learning objectives. 2. For Type 2, recommend National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) S-420 Command and General Staff training or an equivalent team training. 3. For Type 1, recommend NWCG S-520 Advanced Incident Management training or an equivalent team training.
EXPERIENCE	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1. Satisfactory performance as a National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 2 Operations Section Chief (OSC) 2. Successful completion of the National Qualification System (NQS) Position Task Book (PTB) for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Operations Section Chief, or equivalent Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) documentation	Same as Type 3, PLUS: 1. Satisfactory performance as a NIMS Type 3 OSC 2. Successful completion of the NQS PTB for the NIMS Type 2 Operations Section Chief, or equivalent AHJ documentation	1. Successful completion of NQS PTB for the NIMS Type 3 Operations Section Chief, or equivalent AHJ documentation 2. Experience in incident management in a subordinate position	Not Specified
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Light	The NIMS Guideline for the NQS defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NQS positions.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
CURRENCY	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, exercise, drill, or simulation at least once every five years	Not Specified
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated category.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Incident Management Team
2. FEMA, National Qualification System (NQS) Position Task Book for Operations Section Chief, latest edition adopted
3. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
4. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the NQS, November 2017
5. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016